Message Text

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, US, UR, AF
SUBJ: DEMARCHE REGARDING ANTI-U.S. PROPAGANDA IN SOVIET
EMBASSY "NEWS BULLETIN"

REF: KABUL 5381

1. DURING AN AUGUST 29 CALL ON SAMAD GHAUS, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS, I RAISED THE ISSUE OF THE CONTINUING ANTI-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN BEING CARRIED OUT BY THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN ITS "NEWS BULLETIN". I EMPHASIZED TO HIM THAT, IN OUR VIEW, SUCH A CAMPAIGN REPRESENTS A BGYTANT VIOLATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN'S RULE PROHIBITING ANY ABUSE OF THIRD COUNTRIES IN EMBASSY NEWS BULLETINS. I ALSO STRESSED THAT, FOR OUR PART, THE U.S. MISSIONUNDERSTANDS AND APPRECIATES THE "THIRD COUNTRY RULE", AND STRIVES TO ADHERE TO IT SCRUPULOUSLY, BOTH IN LETTER AND IN SPIRIT.

2. DEPUTY MINISTER GHAUS REPLIED THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THE PROBLEM, AND COMMENTED THAT HE WOULD SEE WHAT HE COULD DO TO HAVE THE SOVIET EMBASSY CEASE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ITS PUBLICATION OF ANTI-U.S. CAMPAIGN
REPORTED IN REFTEL, ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS WE
HAVE RAISED THE THIRD COUNTRY ISSUE ON AN INFORMAL
BASIS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S
INFORMATION OFFICE. THESE APPROACHES HAD PRODUCED
NO TANGIBLE EFFECT ON THE CONTENT IN THE SOVIET
EMBASSY'S BULLETIN. WHETHER THIS DEMARCHE TO GHAUS

WILL RESULT IN A DIMINUATION OF THE ANTI-U.S. PRO-PAGANDA REMAINS TO BE SEEN, BUT AT LEAST THE MFA IS AWARE OF THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH WE VIEW THE SITUATION, AS WELL AS OF OUR CONSIDERATION THAT THIS SOVIET PROPAGANDA IS UNACCEPTABLE THIRD COUNTRY BEHAVIOR.

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Message Attributes

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Subject: DEMARCHE REGARDING ANTI-U.S. PROPAGANDA IN SOVIET EMBASSY \"NEWS BULLETIN\"

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